debt shall stand extinguished; the property of bonded labour will be freed from mortgage; and freed bonded labourers are not to be evicted from homesteads. The State Government is responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the Act and any contravention of this Act is punishable with imprisonment and also a line. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Labour in 1978-79 under which the State Governments are provided Central financial assistance on matching grant (50:50) basis for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers. The Scheme envisages provision of rehabilitation grant upto a ceiling limit of Rs. 4,000/- per bonded labourer (raised to Rs. 6,250 w.e.f. 1-2-1986) half of which is given as Central share. So far, a sum of Rs. 3514.06 lakhs has been released to them as Central share of assistance.

Expenditure on Flood Control

163. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite increase in expenditure on flood control, the damage due to floods has been increasing every year;

(b) if so, the break-up of the expenditure on flood control during 1988-89 and 1990-91 and the extent of damage caused due to floods; and

(c) whether Government propose to take some concrete steps to check damage due to floods and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) A Statement is attached.

Statement

(a) Increase in damage due to floods:—

Despite increase in expenditure on flood control, the damage due to floods has been increasing every year mainly due to the following factors:—

(i) Overall rise in prices.

(ii) Increasing encroachment of the flood plains due to population pressure and developmental activities by private and public investments.

(iii) Increase in the agricultural productivity.

(iv) Ad-hoc reporting and estimation of the losses by State Governments.

(v) Non-implementation of recommendations of Rashtriya Barh Ayog on flood plain zoning by the States.

(vi) Frequent damage to flood management works due to inadequate maintenance by States.

(b) Details of Expenditure and damage:

Details of Expenditure on Flood Control and the extent of damage caused due to floods during the years 1988-89 to 1990-91 are as under:—

Year	Expenditure on Flood Control (Rs. in crores)	Damage due to flood (Rs. in crores)
1988-89	211.31	4630
1989-90	205.77	2405
1990-91	210.15 (Anticipated)	1708

(c) Details of Comprehensive Measures for Flood Control & Management:—

The Government of India set up Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) in April, 1972 for formulating comprehensive plans of flood control for rivers of the Ganga Basin. The GFCC has completed comprehensive plans for 23 sub-basins.

For tackling the problem of flood in Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys the Government of India constituted the Brahmaputra Board in December, 1981 charging it with the responsibility of Survey, investigation and preparation of Master Plans for control of floods in Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys and

for taking up projects with the approval of the Government of India. The Board has a programme of preparing master plans separately for Main Brahamputra, Min Barak and 38 tributaries of Brahmaputra and 10 rivers of Tripura. Two parts of Master Plan (for main Brahmaputra and Main Barak) have been finalised.

The Government of India constituted two Committees in November, 1987, one for the North Eastern States and the other for the States of Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources to consider the problem of floods and flood management measures required in the States, to review flood protection measures taken and suggest remedial measures as necessary. On receipt of this report, the Empowered Committee was set up to facilitate expeditious and time bound action on the recommendations of the two Committees. Follow up action required on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee has been circulated in January, 1991 to all the concerned Central/State Agencies.

Also, in other flood prone States/Union Territories such as Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi, Master Plan for Flood Management have been prepared. The Flood Control works are required to be executed by the States as per the *inter se* priority fixed by them in the outline plans so prepared.

सोनिक रेलवे स्टेशन पर हुई दुर्घटना के संबंध में जांच समिति की रिपोर्ट

164. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 4 अगस्त, 1991 को सोनिक रेलवे स्टेशन पर हुई रेल-दुर्घटना के कारणों की जांच करने के लिये कोई जांच समिति गठित की गई है ;

(ख) क्या इस जांच समिति ने अपनी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत कर दी है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके लिये किन-किन व्यक्तियों को जिम्मेदार पाया गया है ; और

(घ) इन व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) रेल संरक्षा आयुक्त, उत्तर क्षेत्र इस दुर्घटना की जांच कर रहे हैं।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Dress for children of Beedi workers

165. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made so far towards the scheme for providing one set of dress to the children of beedi workers in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The scheme for financial assistance to school going children of Beedi Workers for supply of one set of dress under the Beedi Workers' Welfare Fund has been in operation throughout the country since December 1984. In Uttar Pradesh from 262 beneficieries in 1986-87 it has increased to 767 beneficieries in 1990-91. The target for 1991-92 is 880.

Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from T. B.

166. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for domicilliary treatment of beedi workers suffering from T.B.; if so, the details thereof;